

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE CITY COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2004  
IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 1327 FOOTHILL BLVD.  
LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE, CALIFORNIA**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Olhasso called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Councilmembers present were Gregory Brown, Stephen Del Guercio, David Spence, Anthony Portantino, and Laura Olhasso.

Staff members present were City Manager Alexander; City Attorney Steres; Director of Community Development Stanley; Director of Public Works Castellanos; Senior Planner Buss; Planner Cantrell; Senior Management Analyst Goytia Strauss; Management Analyst Adams; and City Clerk Wahlsten.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Paradise Canyon Elementary School Principal Donna Robinson.

4. Comments from the Public

The following persons were present wishing to speak:

Jerry Rivera, former resident of La Cañada Flintridge, now a resident of Valencia, stated he is a tennis professional and coaches several children in La Cañada Flintridge. He sees the need for a tennis program and requested an arrangement whereby he could conduct his coaching activities at the Cornishon courts in return for promoting tennis in La Cañada Flintridge and doing maintenance of the courts. Currently commercial activities are prohibited on the courts.

Marie Frazier, resident of La Cañada Flintridge, spoke on behalf of Mr. Rivera. Her two children have been taking lessons from Mr. Rivera for two years. They are supporting his tennis program because of his dedication to the children.

Council directed Mr. Rivera to go to the Parks & Recreation Commission with a formal proposal. City Manager Alexander stated that certain City ordinances would need to be amended if commercial use was permitted.

Jerome Berkman requested the City and the U.S. Forest Service enforce the original permit given to the County Flood Control District by the Forest Service for the Mullally

Debris Basin. The Basin needs cleaning and he feels it poses a hazard in its present condition. He gave the reports to staff for follow-up.

### Presentations

5. Certificates of Commendation to Paradise Canyon Elementary students Michelle Burrows, Bernard Kim, Melissa Pittson and their sixth-grade language arts teacher, Marion Darling, for their first, second and third place awards in the Environmental Essay Contest sponsored by the LA County Department of Public Works and the LA Times.

Mayor Olhasso presented certificates to Bernard Kim, Melissa Pittson, and their teacher, Marion Darling. Michelle Burrows was not able to be present.

6. Certificates of Commendation to La Cañada High School for their recognition as a "No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School"; Paradise Canyon Elementary School; and Mountain Avenue Elementary School for their recognition as 2004 California Distinguished Schools.

Mayor Olhasso presented certificates to LCHS principals Michael Leininger (9-12) and Cindy Keech (7-8); Paradise Canyon Elementary School principal Donna Robinson; and Mountain Avenue Elementary School principal Gracella Gibbs.

9. Public Safety Update – Fire Department

Mayor Olhasso took this item out of order.

Assistant Fire Chief Gil introduced Michael Singer, new Battalion Chief for La Cañada Flintridge, and stated Chief Singer comes with twenty-five years experience and a strong background in wildland fire operations. Chief Singer presented the monthly report. Chief Gil gave a status report on the Wildland Mitigation program.

7. USDA Forest Service Plan Update and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Kathy Peterson, Assistant Public Affairs Officer for the Angeles National Forest introduced Mike McIntyre, Angeles National Forest archeologist and Sherry Rollman, Angeles National Forest Public Affairs Officer and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the USDA Forest Service Plan Update for the Angeles National Forest. The Service Plan is similar to a zoning plan in that it gives broad direction and guidelines for site specific actions. There is a ninety-day public comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement that began May 19 and ends August 11, 2004.

There are six alternatives being considered and she reviewed the alternatives. The most recommended wilderness is in Alternative 6. Alternative 4 has been identified as the preferred alternative for the public comment period by the Angeles National Forest

Managers. It's intended to focus public comments during the review. When the actual alternative is selected, it will be a "mix and match" based on the comments.

In response to Council query, Mr. McIntyre stated the Regional Forester is the final decision maker with a recommendation coming from Region 5 Forest Supervisor (California and the Pacific Islands). The entire process is anticipated to take a year.

Council noted the impact on our community of additional traffic coming up Angeles Crest Highway, particularly if they approve additional active recreation areas.

Mr. McIntyre stated that the plan is designed to be a 10 to 15 year strategy of how the land will be managed. Any specific projects would require an environmental analysis.

Council asked various questions of the Forest Service representatives regarding the alternatives and what they mean; how they work with the County Fire Department; and if there is any provision for widening the Angeles Crest Highway.

Mayor Pro Tem Portantino introduced Don Bremner, Chair of the Pasadena group of the Sierra Club and the Chair of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Forest Task Force and stated he had invited him to this meeting. Mr. Bremner spoke of the Sierra Club's participation in the process over the past 2 years. He commended the Forest Service for the immense amount of work in the planning process. He stated Alternative 6 represents the input of the conservation groups. It provides for the most non-motorized recreation area and the most wilderness. He stated Alternative 3 would also be a good choice. Alternative 4 emphasizes motorized access.

Liz Blackwelder, spoke in favor of Alternative 6 since it is best for equestrians. She noted that once motorized vehicles are allowed in an area, that permission can't be taken back.

Mary Barrie asked if the position paper was on the Sierra club's website. Mr. Bremner stated he would get the information to her.

Following discussion, Council thanked the Forest Service for their presentation and concurred for staff to come back with a report and recommendation at the July 19<sup>th</sup> or August 2<sup>nd</sup> regular City Council meeting. It should include a Resolution taking a position that is consistent with the Wild Heritage Act, or Boxer bill, that is currently before Congress. Council requested information on the differences between Alternative 3 and 6 and what the County Fire Department's position is on the various Alternatives.

#### 8. City Treasurer's Report

City Treasurer Voss was not able to be present. City Manager Alexander noted that the Investment Report is on the Consent Calendar for acceptance.

#### Reordering of and Additions to the Agenda

No items were reordered or added.

### Consent Calendar

On Item 15 City Manager Alexander noted that the City of Pasadena has notified us that they will not be able to enter into the agreement with the Sanitation Districts before July 19, not July 10 as stated in the letter to Mr. Pastucha and with that change staff recommends approval.

Councilmember Brown stated he would abstain from voting on minutes of June 2, 2004 since he was absent from that meeting. Councilmember Del Guercio stated he would abstain from voting on Item 15, since his law firm does business with the City of Pasadena and it raises a potential Government Code 1090 conflict.

10. Approval of Minutes of the City Council:  
June 2, 2004 Special Meeting  
June 8, 2004 Special Meeting
11. Approval of Warrant Resolution No. 04-11
12. Receive and file Commission Agendas:  
Parks & Recreation Commission agenda for meeting of June 9, 2004  
Planning Commission action agenda for meeting of June 15, 2004  
Public Works & Traffic Commission agenda for meeting of June 16, 2004
13. Acceptance of Report of City's Investments for Period Ending May 31, 2004.
14. Authorization for City Manager to execute agreement renewal with Pasadena Humane Society for animal control services in 2004-05.
15. Authorization for City Attorney to draft and City Manager to execute an agreement with City of Pasadena for \$15,000 expenditure as City's share of upgrades to effect the relinquishment of the Oak Grove Trunk Sewer to the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

Motion by Councilmember Spence, seconded by Councilmember Brown to approve the Consent Calendar as noted. Motion carried unanimously.

### Public Hearings

16. Adoption of Resolution of Necessity for the Acquisition of Certain Easements in Real Property located in the City at:
  - A. 1117 Lavender Lane, Parcel No. 5811-015-018
  - B. 5260 Angeles Crest Highway, Parcel No. 5816-011-013; and
  - C. 5075 Indianola Way, Parcel No. 5816-019-031For the Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Sanitary Sewer District 02-1.

Staff report by City Attorney Steres. One of the property owners has notified us that she is not able to attend and has requested continuance. Staff recommends that since none of the property owners are present, this item not be discussed but continued to July 6, 2004. Motion by Councilmember Del Guercio, seconded by Councilmember Spence to continue this public hearing to July 6, 2004. Motion carried unanimously.

### Ordinances

17. Ordinance No. 351 - Urgency – Continuing the Requirements Imposed on Massage Establishments and Continuing the Moratorium on the Issuance of Operator's Permits for Massage Establishments, through September 30, 2004.

Staff report by City Manager Alexander. The City Council has done first reading on a permanent Ordinance regarding massage establishments within the City, however staff is still gathering information the City Council requested prior to adoption. The current moratorium ordinance will expire June 30, 2004, and it is necessary to adopt another urgency ordinance to extend the moratorium.

Motion by Councilmember Del Guercio, seconded by Councilmember Spence, to direct the City Attorney to read the title of Ordinance No. 351, waive further reading and adopt as an urgency ordinance.

City Attorney Steres read the title of Ordinance No. 351, "An Urgency Ordinance of the City Council of the City of La Cañada Flintridge Continuing the Requirement of an Operator's Permit for the Operation and Conduct of a Massage Establishment and Continuing the Moratorium on the Issuance of Operator's Permits for Massage Establishments Through September 30, 2004." Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

### Other Business

18. Selection of new name for Park located at Foothill Blvd. and the 2 Freeway (formerly called Freeway Park.") (Referred from February 2, 2004, Item 21.)

Staff report by Management Analyst Adams. The Parks & Recreation Commission requested staff to solicit names for the new park under construction at the intersection of Foothill Blvd. and the 2 Freeway. In the past it was referred to as the "Caltrans Lot" and "Freeway Park." By the June 1 deadline a total of sixty-six names had been submitted. The Commission chose Discovery Park, Mayors' Park and Foothill Park as their top three choices and recommends the City Council consider the options and select a name.

Don Reining, resident for 40 years, recommended Mayors' Park, to honor all the fine past Mayors he has known.

Margaret Pankratz, recommended The Mayors' Park to honor the past, present and future Mayors.

Joy Gifford, also recommended The Mayors' Park as a way to teach children about the community and the people who have worked hard to make this a great place to live.

Councilmember Del Guercio suggested Mayors' Discovery Park. Councilmember Brown suggested Foothill Family Park. Mayor Pro Tem Portantino suggested Gateway Park or Pickering Park. Councilmember Spence stated he felt it was fitting to recognize the City's Mayors by naming it Mayors' Park. Mayor Olhasso stated she was uncomfortable naming it Mayors' Park because the Mayor serves because they love the community, not for any special honor; however she is touched that people recognize what the job is. Mayor Olhasso suggested Discovery Park.

Council asked Joy Gifford and Margaret Pankratz about the name Mayors' Discovery Park. Both stated they preferred Mayors' Park.

(Mayor Pro Tem Portantino left at 9:03 p.m. due to an emergency at home.)

Liz Blackwelder recommended Foothill Family Park.

Randi Strapazon, recommended Mayors' Park which could indicate it is a gift from the Mayors to the community.

Councilmember Del Guercio suggested continuing the item to a meeting when all Councilmembers are present and using other methods to get additional input. Margaret Pankratz stated she would concur with Mayors' Discovery Park if it would help in the decision-making.

Following discussion, motion by Councilmember Spence, seconded by Councilmember Del Guercio to name the new park, Mayors' Discovery Park. Motion carried 4-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Portantino absent.

#### 19. Report from Link & West Gateway workshop held July 19, 2003.

Staff report by Director of Community Development Stanley. The Foothill Boulevard Master Plan was adopted by Resolution as policy in 1991. It proposed right of way improvements for the Link District between the YMCA and Leata Lane, including moving the 4-lane roadway with medians to the north side, freeing up space for a linear park on the south side. Other minor improvements were proposed for the West Gateway District.

On July 19, 2003, the City held a workshop for public participation, facilitated by Moore Iacofano Goltsman Inc. (MIG). MIG has provided a summary of recommendations from that workshop, which he reviewed.

Staff recommends the City Council direct staff to establish the scope of Link and West Gateway Specific Plans focusing on identified right of way issues and opportunities, as well as retaining wall, landscaping, and drainage issues on private property.

Council asked if any of these items would be opportunities for grants. Mayor Olhasso noted that there is over \$3 million in Council consideration items and only \$200,000 unallocated funds at this point.

Tom French, who had been Chairman of the Foothill Boulevard Master Plan Committee, and a member of the Planning Commission, was present and stated he was glad to see this finally being considered by the City Council.

Councilmember Brown asked about the YMCA building a parking structure. Director of Community Development Stanley stated that is a long term project for them.

Council concurred that getting some preliminary cost estimates or preliminary designs done would be beneficial, particularly in terms of competing for grants. Following discussion, City Manager Alexander stated that several of these items will come to the City Council as Council consideration items during the budget hearings that start this week.

#### Concluding Business

#### 20. Councilmembers' Reports regarding regional and local representation

Councilmember Spence stated the MTA Planning group for San Gabriel Valley will be meeting with the full MTA Board this week to talk about ways to achieve more effective management. They will propose more autonomous control similar to what the Supervisors gave to Descanso Gardens.

Councilmember Brown stated the County is trying to shift a greater portion of the Sheriff's cost to contract cities and he is working with the Contract Cities Task Force in addressing this. On Friday and Saturday the Contract Cities Executive Committee met to discuss programming for the upcoming year.

Mayor Olhasso stated she did not ride along on Supervisor Antonovich's trail ride, but went to the luncheon, as did Mayor Pro Tem Portantino. Supervisor Antonovich was very pleased with the silver belt buckle that the Trails Council and City presented him commemorating the 2004 Trail Ride in La Cañada Flintridge.

Mayor Olhasso stated she had the opportunity to acknowledge the Valley Sun's co-sponsorship at the Music in the Park last night in Memorial Park.

#### 21. Councilmembers' request for future agenda items

Councilmember Spence asked if we plan to raise animal license fees. City Manager Alexander stated staff has a Council consideration item for a full fee study and this will be part of that. However, in the short term a staff report will be brought to the Council soon that would raise the fees to a level similar to other cities contracting with the Pasadena Humane Society.

Councilmember Del Guercio asked for a report on adding a provision to the Municipal Code that would allow recovery of legal fees for code enforcement cases that go to litigation. Council concurred.

Councilmember Del Guercio stated he understand that Assemblymember Liu and Senator Scott are sponsoring legislation for Cal Trans to cede control of Rosemead Blvd. (State Route 19) to the City of Pasadena and the County. He asked that we consider requesting that for Angeles Crest Highway from the I-210 to the city limits. Council concurred for a report back on the pros and cons, including costs.

Councilmember Brown stated he would like to know where the Palmdale tunnel issue stands. He understands that Supervisor Antonovich has funded a study. We need to stay in the process.

Councilmember Brown asked if we could benefit from an educational session regarding what we expect from the contractor and what we will do differently in Sewer Area 3 as opposed to Sewer Area 2. Council concurred we need to be able to control the process, including speeding up the easement acquisition.

22. Councilmembers' comments

None.

23. City Manager and/or staff comments

None.

### Adjournment

Mayor Olhasso adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

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Marjorie K. Wahlsten, CMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved by the City Council on July 19, 2004